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PLAN REORGANIZATION OF POLISH TRADE UNIONS

As a result of constant changes in the political, economic, and cultural life of the People's Republic of Poland, and of the rapid development of the socialized economy, the need has arisen to improve the entire organizational setup of the Polish trade unions.

At the end of 1949, the secretariat of the Central Council of Trade Unions created a special Commission for Reorganization to plan the necessary changes. The commission began its activity in accordance with a resolution adopted by the Second Congress of Trade Unions.

The USSR has been most helpful in offering advice and assistance. The delegation of Polish trade union leaders which went to the USSR received suggestions from Soviet trade unions on how to streamline the organization of trade unions in Poland. The Commission for Reorganization, in fact, followed closely the experience acquired by Soviet trade unions.

New departments will be created under the Central Council of Trade Unions to meet needs which have too often been neglected heretofore: a labor protection and safety department, and a housing department. The presidium will be called the Secretariat of the Central Council of Trade Unions and will supervise the execution of resolutions, take care of confidential correspondence, and review and edit circular letters issued by the Central Council.

The Organization Department will be renamed Department of Organization and Instructions to emphasize instructions to local trade-unions organizers. The new department will have four sections, dealing with workers in heavy industry, light industry, transportation services, and administration. A special Statistical Department will be established to centralize the collection of data for the entire trade union.

Special sections for public information, problems affecting the rural population, and instructors to popularize trade union ideas among students will be created. These sections will come under the jurisdiction of the Department of Organization and Instructions.

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The Personnel Department will be subdivided into three sections: for staff and workers of the Central Council, for staff and workers of the Regional and Powiat Councils of Trade Unions, and for the staff of the main administrations. The Personnel Department will have its own group of instructors.

The Training Department will have a section for mass training. The Department of Education will be radically transformed. Special emphasis will be placed on political training of the masses and on preparation of field instructors. New sections will be created to deal with the expansion of recreation halls, houses of culture, artistic activities, and libraries. A special innovation will be a section for children, a field which heretofore has been completely neglected by the Central Council of Trade Unions.

The Department of International Relations will have three new sections; for the World Federation of Trade Unions, for trade unions in the USSR and the people's democracies, and for trade unions in capitalist countries and their dependent territories. There will also be a document section and a translators' section.

The Economic Department will change its present structure with the creation of two important sections on wages and on collective bargaining agreements. The section for labor efficiency and technical innovations will be transferred from the Labor Competition Department to the Economic Department. The latter will have three operation sections dealing with heavy industry, light industry, and administration and services. The Economic Department will deal with vocational training, heretofore under the Training Department.

The present Public Welfare Department will also undergo basic changes. The new department will have three sections, for social security, industrial medicine, and public welfare.

The Physical Culture and Sports Department will be reformed in line with observations and suggestions to be made by a delegation of Polish athletic leaders which will visit the USSR.

A special autonomous enterprise will be set up for trade union publications. The new enterprise, called the Administration of Trade Union Publications, will coordinate the editorial policy of all trade union publications and train journalists for these publications.

The Finance and Budget Department will be split into three independent divisions: budgets, central accounting, and financial auditing.

The Department of Housing and Standard of Living will act as an independent unit and will deal with such problems as housing, cost of services, home gardening, and speculation.

The Central Council of Trade Unions will have its own Legal Department to give legal aid, to study labor legislation, to propose changes, and to draft legislative bills in consultation with the proper departments of the Central Council.

A special department will be set up to deal with matters pertaining to construction projects. Furthermore, a General Administration Department will take over procurement and distribution for the various departments and sections of the Central Council of Trade Unions.

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The Commission for Reorganization ruled that departmental councils should be established in all departments employing over 100 persons.

The Department of Organization and Instructions will take over matters pertaining to women from the sections of trade union administrations which have been handling such matters. The only exception will be the Trade Union of Farm Workers. Women's councils will be created in the factories to discuss and deal with problems of trade union life and activities. The women's councils will be subordinated to the factory councils. They will represent the Women's League and act in its behalf in matters of an ideological and political nature.

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